Pittsfield, May 9th 1775.

General Pomeroy, Sr

I shall esteem it a great Happiness if I can communicate any Intelligence to you, Sr that shall be of any Service to my Country. In my last I wrote to you of the Northern Expedition; before this week ends, we are in raised hopes here of hearing that Ticonderoga & Crown Point are in our Hands. Whether the Expedition fails or succeeds, I will send you the most early Intelligence as I look on it an Affair of great Importance. Solomons, the Indian King at Stockbridge, was lately at Col. Easton's of this Town, & said there that the Mohawks had not only given Liberty to the Stockbridge Indians to join us, but had sent them a Belt denoting that they would hold in Readiness 500 Men to join us immediately on the first Notice, & that the s. Solomons hold an Indian post in actual Readiness to run with the news as soon as they shall be wanted. Should the Council of War Judge it necessary to send to them after being better informed of the Matter by Capt. Goodrich Now in the Service if you should issue out your Orders to Col. Easton I make no doubt but he would bring them down soon. Those Indians might be of great Service should the King's Troops march out of Boston, as some think they undoubtedly will upon the Arrival of their Recruits & give us battle.

Our Militia this Way, Sr are vigorously preparing for actual Readiness, adjacent Towns & this Town are buying Arms & Ammunition, there is a plenty of Arms to be sold at Albany as yet, but we hear, by order of the Mayor, &c. no powder is to be sold for the present there. The Spirit of Liberty runs high there, as you have doubtless heard by their post to our Head Quarters. I have exerted myself to dissemineate the same Spirit in this District, which has of late taken a surprizing effect. The poor Tories at Hinderhook are mortified & grieved, & are wheeling about, & begin to take the quick Step. New-York Government begins to be alive in the glorious Cause, & to act with great Vigour.

some this way, say, that the Kings Troops will carry off all the Plate, Merchandize & plunder of the Town of Boston to pay them for their ignominious Expedition, which in my Opinion would not be at all inconsistent with the shameful Principles of those who have sent them on so inglorious an Expedition.

I fervently Pray, Sr that our Council of War may be inspired with wisdom from above, to direct the Warlike Enterprize with prudence, Discretion & Vigour: O may your Councils & Deliberations be under the Guidance & Blessing of Heaven.

Since I began to write, an intelligent person, who left Ticonderoga Saturday before last, informs me, that having gone at three o'clock to Crown Point about 3 Weeks ago, all were secure, but on his Return, he found they were alarmed with our Expedition, & would not admit him into the fort: That there were 12 Soldiers at Crown Point, & he Judged near 200 at Ticonderoga: That those forts are out of Repair, & much in Ruins: That it was his Opinion, our Men would undoubtedly be able to take them: & that he met our Men last Thursday, who were well furnished with Cattle & Waggons Laden with Provisions, & in good Spirits, who he supposed would arrive there last Sabbath Day, & he doubted not but this Week they would be in possession of those forts. He informed them, where they might obtain a plenty of Ball, & there are Cannon enough at Crown Point which they cannot secure from us. That he saw the Old Sow from Cape Breton & a Number of Good Brass Cannon at Ticonderoga. — Should this Expedition succeed, and should the Council of War send up their Orders for the People this Way to transport by Land 20 or 30 of the best of the Cannon to Head Quarters, I doubt not but the people in this Country would do it with all Expedition. We could easily collect a thousand Yoke of Cattle for the Business. —

Since I wrote the last Paragraph an Express has arrived from Benedict Arnold, Commander of the forces against Ticonderoga, for Recruits; in consequence of which, Orders are issued out for a Detachment of 10. Men out of each Company in this Regiment to march immediately, who will be on their way this Day.

I am Sr, with great Respect, your Humble Servant,

Thomas Allen

[at the date of this letter Gen. Seth Pomeroy of Northampton was at Cambridge.]

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